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Storia degli Scavi di Roma e Notizie intorno le Collezioni Romane di Antichità. Per R. LANCIANI. Vol. I., a. 1000-1530. (Rome: Ermanno Loescher e Co. 1902. Pp. iv, 263.)

THIS is the first of five volumes in which the distinguished author proposes to present a history of the excavations and discoveries of works of art which have been made in Rome from the beginning of the eleventh century down to 1870, together with much information as to the formation of the various museums and collections. The field of observation embraces not only Rome, but seventeen neighboring cities, such as Ostia, Tivoli, Anzio, Albano, Ardea, Nemi, and Ariccia. The material is arranged in chronological order, and in order to make it thoroughly useful six copious indexes are provided under the rubrics "Ancient Topography," "Modern and Medieval Topography," "Churches," "Museums, Galleries, and Libraries," "Varia," and "Proper Names." This arrangement makes it possible to obtain at once a complete survey of all the discoveries which have been made at any point within the territory covered, and to trace the history of any collection, as well as that of single objects in these collections. The sources for each item are cited and their authenticity discussed, with such further topographical or archæological annotation as may be desirable.

The value and convenience of this work will be apparent at once, for not only is much material published here for the first time, but much of what had been previously published was relatively unavailable. The labor involved in collecting material so widely scattered has been very great. Lanciani states that his manuscript notes fill ninety-five large volumes containing about ninety-five thousand separate entries, and that he himself gathered the material in Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, and England. In other countries it was done for him.

Down to the fifteenth century our information is comparatively meager, but the notices which Lanciani has collected are especially interesting. The first excavations seem to have been made as early as the seventh century for the purpose of procuring the marble basins from ancient baths, in which to bury the remains of the martyrs within the churches. This was made necessary by the exposed position of their previous tombs, and the increasing inaccessibility of the catacombs. For the same reason sarcophagi, both Roman and early Christian, were searched for. Funeral urns were eagerly appropriated to be used as receptacles for holy water in the churches. The depredations of the workers in marble during these early centuries, who wanted the ancient statues both for models and for raw material, are described, and the discoveries of their workshops, the most notable of which was that of the workmen of Cardinal Raffaele Riario, the builder of the Cancelleria, found in 1871 in the Via Gaeta. The first record of the exportation of Roman marbles is in the time of Theodoric, when the columns of the *domus Pinciana* were carried to Ravenna, but afterwards the custom be-

came general, and even Westminster Abbey appears among the famous churches which were adorned with the spoils of Rome.

After the beginning of the fifteenth century the record is much more exhaustive. Thus on pp. 100-126 are the notices sifted from the *sylloge inscriptionum* of Fra Giocondo, with reference to the thirty-nine private collections of antiquities in Rome in 1498. In connection with the discussion of the sack of Rome in 1527, it is interesting to note that Lanciani takes his position definitely with Gregorovius that the German troops did not deliberately destroy the antiquities of the city.

Although this book is essentially of the nature of a catalogue, it is written with the author's usual charm of style, and the typography is most attractive. It is characteristic of Lanciani that he should adhere to some of his topographical identifications, even after they have been generally abandoned by all others. This work when completed will be a fitting climax to the author's many years of investigation, and will probably be the most valuable and useful of his long series of publications.

S. B. P.

Ancient History to the Death of Charlemagne. By WILLIS MASON WEST, Professor of History in the University of Minnesota. (Boston : Allyn and Bacon. 1902. Pp. xlii, 564.)

THE appearance of this volume affords one more indication of the passing of the old one-year course in general history. Considering such a course "confessedly inadequate, unattractive, and destitute of disciplinary value," Professor West has adopted the compromise proposed by the Committee of Seven, which demands a full year of study for the ancient period alone, and has prepared for the first year's work in history in high schools a text-book which departs in many respects from the conventional manuals of ancient history. Instead of writing separate histories of Greece and Rome and binding them in one cover, he has sought to give Greece and Rome their proper setting in a unified account of the ancient world from the earliest times to the death of Charlemagne, where his volume on modern history is to begin. In order to secure this result many topics once deemed essential are omitted or greatly condensed, while the great connecting epochs of the Hellenistic period and the Roman Empire are treated with unusual fullness. One will look in vain for the jewels of Cornelia and for the sacred chickens; in spite of Thucydides and Cæsar, the accounts of the Sicilian expedition and the campaigns in Gaul occupy but six lines each. The space thus saved from anecdote and military narrative is devoted to the causes and results of wars and to relatively full descriptions of institutions and civilization. Other features of the book will come as a shock to many teachers. Since "the Middle Age is an uncertain one," the author finds "a manifest advantage in ignoring it and in making only two parts to history." The reader is warned against using race character as a universal solvent or even as in itself a valid explanation. "The Aryan fiction" gives way to an anthropological classification of races, and even the Aryan languages are dis-